

Although the detailed descriptions above contain many specifics, these should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention but as merely providing illustrations of some of the presently preferred embodiments of this invention. Various other embodiments and ramifications are possible within its scope, a number of which are discussed in general terms above.

While the invention has been described with a certain degree of particularity, it should be recognized that elements thereof may be altered by persons skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the specific forms set forth herein, but on the contrary, it is intended to cover such alternatives, modifications and equivalents as can be reasonably included within the scope of the invention. The invention is limited only by the following claims and their equivalents.

**REMARKS**

Applicant herewith requests entry of this preliminary amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115. The present case is a continuation of PCT application serial number . PCT/US01/46253, filed October 23, 2001.

No new matter is added by the entry of this proposed amendment.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of all claims in the pending application.

Respectfully submitted,  
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In re: Application of Samuel T. Basta  
LOW PROFILE FLOATING LIFT FOR WATERCRAFT  
Attorney Docket Number 03-1004-04

[Replacement for paragraph commencing on page 17, line 26 and ending on page 18, line 6, marked up to show changes from paragraph as originally filed]

Suitable materials for use in a marine environments, as known to those skilled in the art, can be used to construct the components of the lift 100, including the accessories described above, i.e., the guide-ons 802, stem stop 804, and associated brackets 812, 828, and universal plate 842, and fasteners. The guide-ons 802, as well as the stem stop 804, can be formed from sturdy plastic that will help prevent damage to the exterior of the boat hull and the stern drive or outboard drive components. [While a preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, it will be appreciated that various changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Consequently, the invention is to be limited by the scope of the claims that follow.]